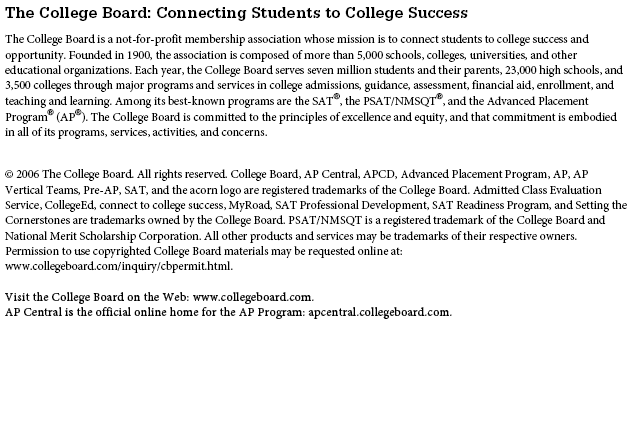


# **Mavericks**

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### UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

### Section I

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**SECTION I**

**Time – 45 minutes**

Directions: You have 45 minutes to answer all 60 of the following questions. Please choose the best response to each question and fill it in your answer sheet. Any work written in this test booklet will not be counted toward your grade.

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| 1. The primary source of legitimate political authority in the United States is the  a. Bill of Rights.  b. will of the people.  c. U.S. Constitution.  d. concept of civil liberty.  e. notion of civil rights. |
| 2. Jefferson's phrase, "the pursuit of happiness," stated in the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence, was more specifically interpreted by the colonists to mean the right to  a. self-employment.  b. political liberty.  c. taxation only with representation.  d. property.  e. assembly. |
| 3. The effect of Shays's Rebellion on attendance by delegates at the planned Constitutional Convention of 1787 was to  a. encourage attendance by delegates fearing the collapse of state governments.  b. encourage attendance by delegates fearing intervention by the British.  c. discourage attendance by delegates fearing a public outcry against any strengthening of the Articles of Confederation.  d. discourage attendance by delegates fearing intervention by the British.  e. discourage attendance by delegates who fought in the Revolutionary War. |
| 4. The central issue in the framing of the U.S. Constitution was that of  a. how strong to make the central government.  b. how best to divide powers among the branches of government.  c. how best to break with Great Britain.  d. how to adopt liberty but still allow slaveholding.  e. how to create a truly independent judiciary. |
| 5. The Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution was intended to limit the power of  a. state governments over citizens.  b. citizens to amend the U.S. Constitution.  c. the federal government.  d. legislatures to amend the U.S. Constitution.  e. All of these. |
| 6. The McCulloch v. Maryland decision established  a. judicial review by the Supreme Court.  b. state sovereignty in interstate commerce.  c. national government supremacy over the states.  d. the legality of the slave trade.  e. All of these. |
| 7. By ruling that the government cannot require local police to conduct background checks on all gun purchases, it held that to do so would be a violation of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Amendment.  a. Fifth  b. Sixth  c. Tenth  d. Fourteenth  e. None of these. |
| 8. Political maneuvering and lobbying by local officials will probably be greatest when what type of federal money is involved?  a. revenue sharing  b. a block grant  c. a mandated grant  d. a categorical grant  e. A and B |
| 9. The difference between a mandate and a condition of aid is that  a. with a mandate the federal government tells a state government what it must do if it wants grant money.  b. a mandate applies to a block grant; a condition of aid applies to a categorical grant.  c. a mandate applies to a categorical grant; a condition of aid applies to a block grant.  d. with a mandate the federal government allows the state to do as it pleases if its actions are in accordance with federal law.  e. with a mandate it makes no difference who is paying the costs of a program. |
| 10. The difference between a political ideology and a political culture is that  a. the former deals with means, the latter with goals.  b. the former deals with economic issues, the latter with sociological issues.  c. the former deals with what government should do, the latter with how government should operate.  d. the former deals with theories, the latter with reality.  e. the former deals with institutions, the latter with leadership. |
| 11. The culture war is about  a. which ethnic group governs.  b. what kind of country we ought to live in.  c. how much money should be spent on social programs.  d. the ethics of foreign policy.  e. which groups deserve to influence policy. |
| 12. The sense that one has a say in what government does and that politics is understandable is referred to as  a. political efficacy.  b. political clout.  c. political legitimacy.  d. political participation.  e. political reciprocity. |
| 13. One reason why public policy often differs from public opinion is that  a. the U.S. Constitution places many checks on the influence of public opinion.  b. public opinion polling tends to express the opinions of a political elite.  c. while public opinion is easy to gauge, public policy is not.  d. public opinion tends to change much more slowly than public policy.  e. public opinion is rarely informed at the beginning of the policy making process. |
| 14. A gender gap is most likely to occur in an election in which the major issue is  a. war.  b. women's rights.  c. gun control.  d. political ethics.  e. school prayer. |
| 15. Low voter turnout in the United States can best be explained by  a. voter apathy.  b. the media, especially television.  c. the political party system.  d. the media, especially big city newspapers.  e. the voter registration system. |
| 16. Which Amendment stated that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude"?  a. the 12th Amendment  b. the 17th Amendment  c. the 15th Amendment  d. the 25th Amendment  e. None of these. |
| 17. A major difference between presidential campaigns and congressional campaigns is that  a. fewer people vote in presidential elections.  b. presidential incumbents can better serve their constituents.  c. presidential incumbents can more easily avoid responsibility.  d. presidential races are generally more competitive.  e. congressional incumbents are more likely to be defeated. |
| 18. Which of the following statements is incorrect?  a. Representatives must be 25 years of age.  b. Senators must be 35 years of age.  c. Representatives must be citizens of the U.S. for 7 years.  d. Senators must be citizens of the U.S. for 9 years.  e. Representatives and senators must live in the state in which they are elected. |
| 19. The Founders saw political parties as  a. an important aspect of democracy.  b. effective only in raising money for campaigns.  c. appropriate for a direct democracy but not for a republic.  d. a means communicating public opinion to the president.  e. factions motivated by ambition and self-interest. |
| 20. Which of the following were major issues in the three clearest cases of critical or realigning periods?  a. crime  b. slavery  c. war  d. economics  e. B and D |
| 21. Recent ideological trends in the major parties indicate that  a. both parties have become more conservative.  b. both parties have become more liberal.  c. the Democrats have become more liberal, the Republicans more conservative.  d. the Republicans have become more liberal, the Democrats more conservative.  e. both parties have become less ideological. |
| 22. One reason interest groups are so common in the United States is that  a. political parties are relatively weak.  b. society is relatively homogeneous.  c. important decisions are made in only a few places.  d. political authority resides in a handful of officials.  e. B and D. |
| 23. An organization that seeks to influence public policy is most accurately referred to as a(n)  a. interest group.  b. lobby.  c. institutional interest.  d. membership interest.  e. referenced interest. |
| 24. The Americans who are most likely to join interest groups are  a. religious people.  b. people in small communities.  c. people from the lower socioeconomic classes and members of minority groups.  d. people in economic distress.  e. people with better-than-average incomes. |
| 25. One method used by lobbyists to convince undecided legislators that public opinion on an issue is inclined toward their direction is to  a. supply them with their most recent ratings.  b. supply them with technical information.  c. commission a public opinion poll.  d. cultivate the goodwill of government officials.  e. threaten a lawsuit. |
| 26. Which of the following virtually guarantees that nonstrategic information will become public record?  a. the Official Secrets Act  b. the U.S. Government Printing Office  c. the Freedom of Information Act  d. the Supreme Court case of United States v. Nixon  e. A and B. |
| 27. The national media often play the role of gatekeeper. This means that they can  a. influence public opinion on most issues.  b. influence what subjects become national political issues.  c. prevent certain politicians from winning office by not covering their campaigns.  d. provide greater depth on stories than the local press.  e. channel public opinion in a manner that causes politicians to respond. |
| 28. Which act made it a crime to write, utter, or publish "any false, scandalous, and malicious material" aimed at the government with the intent to defame it?  a. the Sedition Act of 1798  b. the Espionage Act of 1917  c. the Smith Act of 1940  d. the Internal Control Act of 1960  e. the F.O.L.E. Act of 1975 |
| 29. Usually, the Supreme Court has reacted to wartime curtailments of civil liberties by  a. upholding them.  b. rejecting them.  c. upholding them at first, limiting them later.  d. rejecting them at first, reinstating them later.  e. avoiding rulings on constitutionality and consigning such issues to the lower federal courts. |
| 30. In the early 1920s, Charles T. Schenck was convicted under the Espionage Act because, as the Supreme Court saw it,  a. he was an illegal alien.  b. he had published documents that were vital to national security.  c. his actions presented a clear and present danger.  d. his actions threatened the security of the nation.  e. he had not intentionally inspired lawlessness. |
| 31. A key to the passage of major civil rights laws was the breaking of the Senate filibuster with  a. a cloture motion.  b. round-the-clock sessions.  c. a quorum call.  d. a substitute motion.  e. point of personal privilege. |
| 32. In evaluating laws that treat men and women differently, the Supreme Court has generally ruled against the view that  a. such laws must be reasonable.  b. persons in similar circumstances must be treated alike.  c. gender-based classifications are inherently suspect.  d. the classification must be related to the object of legislation.  e. such laws must be based on the grounds of some real difference between men and women. |
| 33. State laws forbidding abortions were ruled unconstitutional in the case of  a. Rostker v. Goldberg.  b. Hyde v. Hyde.  c. Roe v. Wade.  d. Wygant v. Jackson.  e. L.A. Department of Power v. Manhart. |
| 34. Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution confers on Congress all of the following powers except  a. the power to collect taxes.  b. the power to declare war.  c. the power to establish courts.  d. the power to interpret laws.  e. the power to regulate commerce. |
| 35. The typical member of Congress is a(n)  a. middle-aged, white, Protestant businessman.  b. older, white, Protestant businessman.  c. older, white, Catholic lawyer.  d. middle-aged, white, Protestant lawyer.  e. young, white, communications major. |
| 36. The explanation for congressional voting behavior that assumes members vote on the basis of their beliefs is referred to as  a. representational.  b. conventional.  c. organizational.  d. attitudinal.  e. relational. |
| 37. In recent years, American voters have political beliefs that are  a. very liberal.  b. very conservative.  c. close to the center of the political spectrum.  d. similar to members of Congress.  e. similar to members of the federal courts. |
| 38. Among the many powers of the House Speaker is that he or she  a. decides to which committee bills go.  b. assigns party members to the various committees.  c. keeps party leaders informed about the opinions of their party members.  d. schedules legislation.  e. takes the minutes. |
| 39. A bill can be introduced in Congress by  a. any member of the majority party.  b. any member of Congress.  c. any member of Congress or the president.  d. members of the relevant committees only.  e. committee chairmen only. |
| 40. One of the fears expressed by the Founders about aspects of the presidency was the fear of a president's  a. claiming certain inherent powers by virtue of his position.  b. being corrupted by, or corrupting, the Senate.  c. using his position to shape public opinion.  d. powers to appoint select Supreme Court justices without congressional approval.  e. powers to pardon. |
| 41. Presidents have been limited to two terms by the  a. Fourteenth Amendment.  b. Sixteenth Amendment.  c. Nineteenth Amendment.  d. Twenty-first Amendment.  e. Twenty second Amendment. |
| 42. Which of the following statements is incorrect?  a. In order to win an election, a candidate must receive at least half of the votes of the electoral college.  b. Each state receives an electoral vote for each member it has in the House and the Senate.  c. In some states, electoral votes can be split.  d. State electors assemble in Washington to cast their ballots.  e. Electoral ballots are opened before a joint session of Congress during the first week in January. |
| 43. The personality of which president began to alter the relationship between the president and Congress and the nature of presidential leadership?  a. Andrew Jackson  b. Ulysses Grant  c. Richard Nixon  d. Jimmy Carter  e. William H. Harrison |
| 44. Of the following, the group in closest physical and political proximity to the president is the  a. Executive Office of the President.  b. State Department.  c. cabinet.  d. White House Office.  e. the Press Corp. |
| 45. The method of staff organization that poses the risk of isolating or misinforming the president is called  a. intuitive.  b. pyramid.  c. circular.  d. ad hoc.  e. linear. |
| 46. The main reason the cabinet is a weak entity is that  a. the secretaries are inherently jealous of one another.  b. not all agencies are members of the cabinet.  c. the secretaries defend, explain, and enlarge their own agencies.  d. they are all personal friends of the president.  e. tubular organizations schemes inevitably cloud the ability of members to communicate effectively. |
| 47. Most federal agencies must share their functions with  a. related state agencies.  b. private corporations.  c. interest groups.  d. congressional staff.  e. White House staff. |
| 48. A dramatic increase in activism by the federal bureaucracy occurred in the twentieth century, largely as a consequence of  a. the growth of patronage and the rise of political parties.  b. the Sixteenth Amendment and the Social Security Act.  c. a desire for limited government and an end to earlier regulatory practices.  d. the Great Depression of the 1930s and World War II.  e. the rise of special interest groups and unions. |
| 49. The Whistle-blower Protection Act of 1989 is designed to protect  a. agencies that are being undermined by their employees.  b. agencies that are being undermined by Congress.  c. agency heads who fire employees for misconduct.  d. bureaucrats who tell on their bosses.  e. bureaucrats who are not career employees. |
| 50. Rulings by the Supreme Court in Marbury v. Madison and McCulloch v. Maryland established all of the following principles except  a. the Supreme Court could rule an act of Congress unconstitutional.  b. the federal government has the power to regulate commerce among the states.  c. the federal government is permitted to pass any laws necessary and proper to the attainment of constitutional ends.  d. federal law is supreme over state law.  e. Congress cannot expand the original jurisdiction of the Court. |
| 51. During the period from the end of the Civil War to the beginning of the New Deal, the dominant issue that the Supreme Court faced was  a. government regulation of the economy.  b. states' rights versus federal supremacy.  c. slavery.  d. government regulation of interstate commerce.  e. freedom of press. |

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| 52. A case on appeal reaches the Supreme Court via a writ of  a. certiorari.  b. appeal.  c. mandamus.  d. injunction.  e. habeas corpus. |
| 53. A diversity case is one involving  a. the jurisdiction of more than one appellate court.  b. the jurisdiction of more than one district court.  c. citizens of different states.  d. a writ of certiorari.  e. a writ of mandamus. |
| 55. Which of the following presidential administrations is associated with a large federal tax cut?  a. John F. Kennedy.  b. Ronald Reagan.  c. George W. Bush.  d. All of these.  e. B and C. |
| 56. An example of a welfare policy in which most or all people benefit is  a. Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC).  b. food stamps.  c. free school meals.  d. Medicare.  e. A and B. |
| 57. All of the following involve a means test except  a. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.  b. Supplemental Security Income.  c. Food Stamps.  d. Medicaid  e. Medicare. |
| 58. In the conduct of foreign affairs, Congress has all of the following powers except  a. the power to appropriate money for the armed forces.  b. the power to declare war on other nations.  c. the power to appoint ambassadors.  d. the power to regulate commerce with other nations.  e. the power to authorize money for the armed forces. |
| 59. When a U.S. president signs a treaty with another nation, he or she is issuing  a. his or her personal guarantee that the United States will act in a prescribed fashion.  b. a legal mandate that has been approved by both the courts.  c. a congressional promise that the United States will act in a prescribed fashion.  d. a legal mandate that has been approved by Congress.  e. his or her promise to try to get the Senate to go along. |
| 60. Coordination of the different agencies that have overseas activities is handled by the  a. president directly.  b. National Security Council.  c. secretary of state.  d. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).  e. president’s cabinet. |

#### END OF SECTION I

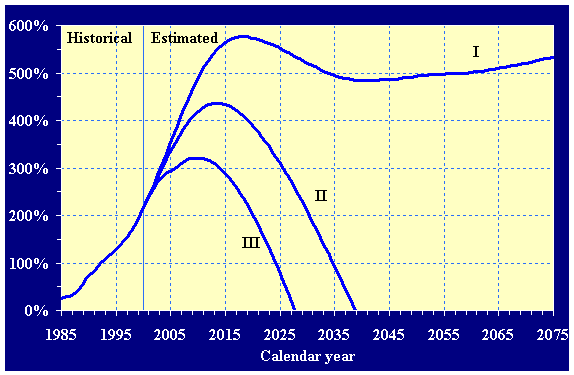
**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**SECTION II**

**Time – 100 minutes**

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. In your response, use substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

1. The framers of the United States Constitution created a legislative system that is bicameral. However, it is not just bicameral; the framers also established two houses of distinctly different character and authority.
   1. Discuss two reasons why the framers created a bicameral legislature. [2]
   2. Identify one power unique to the House of Representatives and explain why the framers gave the House that power. [2]
   3. Identify one power unique to the Senate and explain why the framers gave the Senate that power. [2]
2. The United States Constitution has endured for more than two centuries as the framework of government. However, the meaning of the Constitution has been changed both by formal and informal methods.
   1. Identify two formal methods for adding amendments to the Constitution. [2]
   2. Describe two informal methods that have been used to change the meaning of the Constitution. Provide one specific example for each informal method you described. (Example must be linked to correct method) [4]
   3. Explain why informal methods are used more often than the formal amendment process. [1]
3. In recent decades, entitlement programs have constituted a substantial portion of the United States federal budget. Social Security is the largest entitlement program in the United States. From the information in the chart and your knowledge of United States government and politics, perform the following tasks.



* 1. Define entitlement program. [1]
  2. What is the primary source of revenue for the Social Security program? [1]
  3. Identify one threat to the future of the Social Security program should the trends depicted in the chart above continue (2001-2035). [2]
  4. Describe one demographic trend that threatens the future of the Social Security program AND explain how it is responsible for the threat that you identified in the third bullet. [3]
  5. Explain how any one of the trends in the chart would change if the age of eligibility for Social Security were raised. [1]

1. While interest groups and political parties each play a significant role in the United States political system, they differ in their fundamental goals.
   1. Identify the fundamental goal of interest groups in the political process. [2]
   2. Identify the fundamental goal of major political parties in the political process. [2]
   3. Describe two different ways by which interest groups support the fundamental goal of political parties in the political process. [2]
   4. For one of the forms of support you described in the third bullet, explain two different ways in which that form of support helps interest groups to achieve their fundamental goal in the political process.[2]

**END OF EXAMINATION**